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Your essential daily news | WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2017

High -23°C/Low -26°C Sunny

Alexa Potashnik and Amy Tuckett-McGimpsey are eager to participate on Jan. 21. JESSICA BOTELHO-URBANSKI/FOR METRO

**We're with
WASHINGTON**
Winnipeg rally to walk in step with Women's
March against Donald Trump, metroNEWS

Saran has path back to caucus

HARASSMENT CLAIMS

New Democrats seek apology for alleged remarks to colleague

A former Manitoba cabinet minister accused of sexual harassment was offered a path back into the Opposition NDP caucus Tuesday, although details and deadlines were not yet worked out.

Mohinder Saran will no longer be barred from attending caucus meetings if he apologizes to the complainant and agrees to take part in some sort of reconciliation with her, caucus chairman Rob Altemeyer said.

"Apologies would be, I would think, a clear part of it — apologies to the complainant, to our caucus from Mr. Saran," Altemeyer said following a 6-1/2-hour closed-door caucus meeting. "But reconciliation is about more than that as well. It's about healing, it's about understanding and it's about finding a path so that everyone can move forward."

Saran was suspended from caucus meetings in November following a formal complaint that he had harassed someone in the workplace. The NDP and Saran have not disclosed any details, but a party source said Saran was accused of making inappropriate comments and overtures to a subordinate that verged on propositioning her.

The legislature's human-resources branch investigated and Saran's lawyer, Bill Gange, said Saran agreed with the branch's recommendation that he undergo sensitivity training.

Saran has declined to comment. Gange said last month that Saran expected full reinstatement but, on Tuesday, said he was unclear on exactly what the caucus is seeking.

"I am trying to clarify what it is that the NDP caucus wants. Until we understand that, it is difficult to make any comment," Gange wrote in an email.

Saran was first elected in 2007 and, in 2015, played a key role in helping then-premier Greg Selinger survive an internal coup.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Intense lacrosse action at the Toronto Rock Athletic Centre last summer. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Kids learn lacrosse for free across city

RECREATION

Association keen to whip up enthusiasm for the sport

Braeden Jones
Metro | Winnipeg

Box lacrosse in Manitoba is having a moment, but not a good one.

With participation falling in recent years, the provincial association is offering free clinics to boost interest.

Andrew Jolly, a long time member of the Manitoba Lacrosse Association (MLA), says the organization has struggled "getting new kids involved and keeping them in the sport."

"If you go back 12, 13 years... we had a real spike, probably between 1,200 and 1,300 kids playing from five-years-old to 16-years-old," Jolly explained. "Right now we're just a little over 800."

He believes an increase in

spring and summer hockey availability, soccer and baseball popularity spurred by new professional teams, or any number of other sports with higher profile than lacrosse have been stealing the lion's share of sporting attention.

Plus, lacrosse isn't generally a part of physical education curriculums, so kids don't have the same exposure to the sport as they do volleyball or basketball.

"We're just not as visible," Jolly said.

But the MLA wants to stop the bleeding, correct course, and expose more kids to what Jolly calls the most "creative" game they'll play.

To that end, the association and the Red River Lacrosse Association are providing free clinics to introduce new players to lacrosse — they just have to show up with gym clothes, a helmet and gloves (the hockey variety kicking around most basements or available cheap secondhand will do).

Dallas Smith, the MLA's executive director, said the

plan builds on the successful "discover lacrosse" clinics that have run in the city's south end for years. Now, it's available to the rest of Winnipeg.

"What we want to happen, ideally, is to build up our base of tyke, mini-tyke and novice players which has been fading most over the past five years or so," he said.

Once they get involved, it's often a case that new players are hooked.

"Also lacrosse is an indigenous game, started by First Nations communities, and some of them have lost touch with lacrosse which is unfortunate," Smith said. "So we're trying to promote lacrosse in their communities."

Another tenet of a brighter future for Canada's summer sport in the keystone province is improving the association's resources more generally.

He said it's important especially because the drop in Manitoba isn't as acute in other provinces, and numbers are actually improving in Ontario and British Columbia.

PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION



Winnipeg Transit Bus Maintenance Garage Expansion Project

Winnipeg Transit's fleet has been increasing in size and types of buses over the past decade. The primary vehicle maintenance facility operated by Winnipeg Transit is the vehicle overhaul and repair shop at the Fort Rouge Garage, located at 421 Osborne Street. Approximately 95% of the maintenance activities that support fleet operations are housed at this location. The main facilities at the Fort Rouge Garage are nearly 50 years old and many of the building systems have reached the end of their useful life. To meet current and future demand, Winnipeg Transit is proposing to expand its Fort Rouge Garage bus maintenance facility.

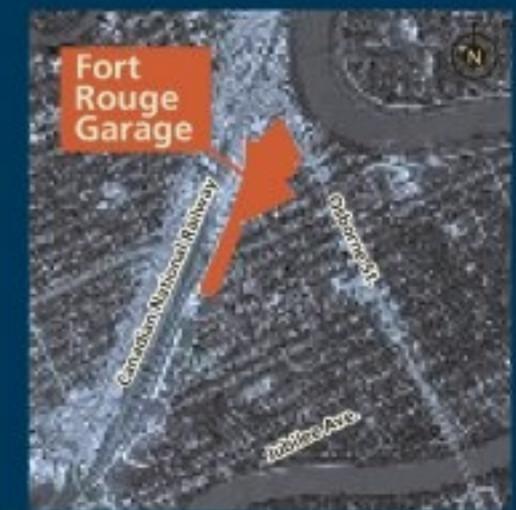
Please join us to review project information, discuss with project team members and provide your input and feedback.

DATE: Thursday, January 19, 2017

TIME: 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Fort Rouge Leisure Centre
625 Osborne Street

FORMAT: Drop-in format



Project Contact: Brock Feenstra, MMM Group 204.943.3178 or feenstrab@mmm.ca

www.winnipeg.ca/transitgarageexpansion

Dylann Roof sentenced to death for killing nine people in Charleston, South Carolina. **World**



City tackles sidewalk snow

PUBLIC SERVICES

Crews have no place to put the white stuff, staff say

Stephanie Taylor
Metro | Winnipeg

Residents unhappy with the quality of sidewalk snow removal this winter can blame a record-breaking amount of snow that left crews with fewer places to store the white stuff, according to Winnipeg's streets maintenance manager.

Jim Berezowsky, and chief administrative officer Doug McNeil, appeared before Tuesday's committee on infrastructure renewal and public works to deliver an update on the recent snow-clearing efforts.

Despite concerns from many residents and councillors alike, Berezowsky maintained that our city is a North American leader when it comes to snow clearing, noting that some cities, such as Edmonton and Calgary, require residents to shovel their own sidewalks.

Committee chairman Coun. Marty Morantz said residents are mostly concerned about sidewalk snow removal.



Snow removal along Brazier street at Ottawa in Winnipeg Tuesday. LYLE STAFFORD/FOR METRO

Coun. Cindy Gilroy, who appeared before the committee as a delegate, said there appears to be a "disconnect" between clearing streets and sidewalks.

Berezowsky said crews have encountered problems clearing sidewalks. On top of receiving more than a season's worth of snow in a month, gusting winds

left higher windrows, which gave them nowhere to store the snow.

"That's where the challenge comes for a sidewalk plow, is when it does not have the ability to move the snow from the sidewalk onto the available windrow for storage," Berezowsky told reporters.

"Anytime we get into those

high wind and snow combinations, it's always a challenge for the city."

He said that, logically, a way to improve sidewalk clearing would be for crews to find alternative places to haul snow.

As of Tuesday, Berezowsky said all regional sidewalks along bus routes should be clear, with plans

for crews to tackle residential sidewalks this evening.

Both he and McNeil also said that sidewalk plows simply move slower than the trucks used on streets. In many cases, crews had to use blowers instead of blades to remove the snow, which slowed the operation even further.

Berezowsky said resources are not a problem and that the city's fleet of sidewalk plows and use of private contractors is keeping up with the city's growth — even with more kilometres of new sidewalks thanks to new subdivision developments.

The city owns around 33 sidewalk snow plows, and is looking at purchasing up to seven more machines that, depending on its attachments, can range in price from \$65,000 to \$250,000.

Coun. Matt Allard said it would be risky for the city to increase its \$33-million budget for snow clearing or buy new equipment after one unusual season because next winter there could be far less snow.

Regardless of this winter's record-breaking snow fall, Coun. Janice Lukes says the city must update its snow-clearing policy to reflect the increase in active transportation routes over the past several years.

In December alone, Environment Canada reported 68.8 centimetres of snow fell on Winnipeg.

PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING

Razing a year away, agency says

The teardown of Winnipeg's Public Safety Building and Civic Centre Parkade is at least a year away, if not longer.

That's according to Angela Mathieson, CEO and president of CentreVenture, city hall's arms-length downtown development agency, which has been tasked with helping city hall drum up a redevelopment plan for the Exchange District site.

In a recent interview, Mathieson said a public consultation plan would launch within weeks.

"A site like this we think is terribly important. That's why the engagement process is going to take up to a year."

Officials in the planning department have said that without a redevelopment plan in place for the 2.4-acre site, the former police headquarters and shuttered parkade cannot be demolished.

Last March, the committee on planning, property and development voted to come up with a plan that would see both those buildings torn down in order to make way for a private development and large public space.

Mathieson described the upcoming public consultations as twofold: First, the general public will be asked to brainstorm ideas for the site, then neighbouring businesses, like Red River College, will be individually consulted. STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO

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City takes steps to better road safety

INFRASTRUCTURE

Plan needs community consultation



City hall has taken the first step to developing a road safety strategy for Winnipeg.

On Tuesday, councillors on the infrastructure renewal and public works committee voted in favour of having city staff create a road safety strategy within a year.

"This is exactly what I'd hope for," Coun. Janice Lukes, who pitched the committee on the ideas, said after the meeting.

"This is excellent."

She explained the city needs a comprehensive strategy to prioritize spending and better focus on specific ways to make roads safer.

Lukes cited Manitoba Public



Jason Bekolay cycles to work in Winnipeg on Wednesday last week. The city is working towards adopting a new roads strategy in line with Vision Zero. STEPHANIE TAYLOR/METRO

Insurance's reported increase in road deaths from 2015 to 2016, higher rates of distracted driving and the upcoming legalization of pot as reasons why the city needs a robust road safety plan.

The committee voted for public works staff to develop a strategy that aligns with the principles of Towards Zero, Can-

ada's version of Vision Zero, which is a Swedish approach to road safety based on the belief collisions are preventable.

Lukes anticipates the strategy will focus heavily on education and require collaboration with the province, the Winnipeg Police Service and Manitoba Public Insurance.

The plan needs community consultation, she added.

Lukes expects that with adoption of a new policy, the city will have to set aside extra funds for transportation engineering improvements to promote road safety.

"Road safety is extremely serious and why wouldn't we?"

MTS CENTRE

Brock Lesnar visits Jets locker room



If you had the game on and caught a glimpse of a 'Beast Incarnate' wearing a Winnipeg Jets jersey, you weren't dreaming.

Brock Lesnar, former UFC heavyweight champion and on-again-off-again pro wrestling star, was at the MTS Centre for the Jets versus Flames game, decked out in full Winnipeg kit.

Family in tow, the WWE star and MMA champion was invited back to the locker room after the Jets' 2-0 win.

"We live in Canada now, and

we're not too far away from Winnipeg," said Lesnar in a video posted to the team's Twitter account. "My kids are Jets fans, now I'm a Jets fan."

"Hockey is new to me," he admits. "I've just been a fan for about a year."

The 6'3", 280 lb mountain of muscle, known for his successes in the world of MMA and in WWE, has a friendship with Dustin Byfuglien that goes back to their days in Minnesota.

"He's from Northern Minnesota and I'm adopted Minnesotan. I've lived there, resided there for quite a number of years and we've got mutual friends."

MOVING IMAGES

Watch Guy Maddin's self-destroying film

It's a once-in-a-lifetime chance to see a movie that will literally disappear after a single screening. Winnipeg filmmaker Guy Maddin's latest project, *Seances*, is being presented at the University of Winnipeg's Gallery 1C03 as part of the Moving Images exhibit.

The data-driven storytelling project boasts a smorgasbord of film clips generated into unique stories via algorithms. Their order is then destroyed upon each viewing, never to be seen again. Moving Images opens with a conversation in Eckhardt-Gramatté Hall Thursday at 7 p.m. JESSICA BOTELHO-URBANSKI/FOR METRO

RECIPE TIME

Italian Sausage Soup

1 onion, diced
2 cups carrots, sliced
1 1/2 cups parsnips, sliced
1 Red pepper, diced

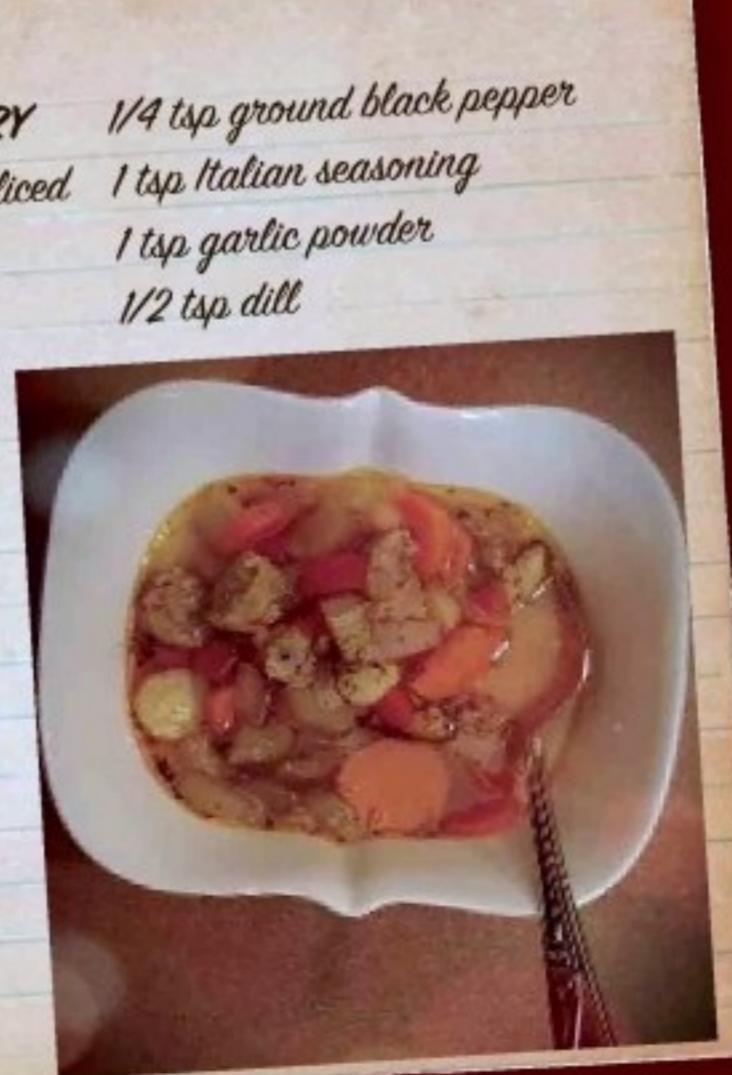
3 WINNIPEG OLD COUNTRY SAUSAGES, cooked and sliced
4 cups vegetable broth
3 cups water
1/4 tsp ground black pepper
1 tsp Italian seasoning
1 tsp garlic powder
1/2 tsp dill

Add WOCS fresh Italian sausage to a pot of water and bring to a boil for approximately 8-10 mins. Drain. Set aside.

In a large pot over medium heat, melt about 2 tablespoons of butter. Sauté onions, then add all vegetables and spices to the pot.

While vegetables are cooking, remove casing from Italian sausage and slice or chop to your desired thickness. Add sausage to the pot of vegetables. Continue cooking for 5 minutes. Add broth and water.

Simmer over low to medium heat for 40-60 minutes, stirring occasionally. Enjoy!



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Alexa Potashnik and Amy Tuckett-McGimpsey plan to participate in the Women's March on Washington in Winnipeg on Jan. 21. JESSICA BOTELHO-URBANSKI/FOR METRO

Women, allies stand up for human rights

POLITICS

Local groups to march in solidarity with Trump protests



Jessica Botelho-Urbanski
For Metro | Winnipeg

Women and allies in Winnipeg and around the world are planning to march in solidarity on Jan. 21, the day after Donald Trump takes office.

What started as thousands of people RSVPing to a single march in Washington, D.C. has turned into synchronized sister marches across the globe.

In Winnipeg, at least 20 grassroots groups — including unions, students, immigrants, refugees and members of the LGBTQ* community — have signed on to march down Portage Avenue.

Alexa Potashnik, the founder of Black Space Winnipeg, will emcee the event. She notes everyone is marching for different reasons, not necessarily to protest Trump.

"We're really coming together to take a stand against oppression and stand up for human rights and women's rights," she said. "The (march) in Washington, from what I know, is really centred around anti-Trump. Ours is a little more reconciliation-based and making sure that people of colour and communities who are marginalized have a platform to be heard and recognized."

Amy Tuckett-McGimpsey, communications lead for the Women's Health Clinic, has been helping plan the march, which will start with an elder's blessing at Portage Place at 11 a.m., she said.

The list of speakers isn't finalized yet, but will largely feature voices from communities that are often marginalized,

she added.

Members of IRCOM (Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization of Manitoba) will be marching and for many of them, it's going to be "their first taste of activism in Canada," said Jen Glenwright, who teaches English with the group's newcomer literacy initiative.

Many at IRCOM, including

Her students, who are mostly Muslim, expressed fears about what might happen to their relatives in the U.S. and were worried about what kind of ripple effects a Trump presidency could have internationally.

Marching together will be an act of resilience and hope for Glenwright.

"They're just the strongest



We're really coming together to take a stand against oppression and stand up for human rights and women's rights. Alexa Potashnik

women you're ever going to meet," she said of her students. "And I just think, if they've fought this hard to get here (to Winnipeg), then I hope collectively across the world, women can really stake a stand."

For more on the Winnipeg chapter of the Women's March on Washington, visit their Facebook event page.



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Prime Minister Justin Trudeau joined by his newly sworn-in ministers. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cabinet shuffle: Who's in and out

Justin Trudeau promoted many up-and-coming MPs on Tuesday as part of a shakeup aimed in part at preparing for a Donald Trump presidency.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Foreign Affairs

CHRYSTIA FREELAND leaves the trade portfolio to replace veteran Liberal MP **STEPHANE DION**, who announced Tuesday that he plans to leave active politics. Freeland is a cabinet superstar, credited with navigating through the Canada-European Union free-trade agreement — potentially valuable experience for dealing with the incoming Trump administration.



Immigration

AHMED HUSSEN, a Somali-born rookie MP in Toronto, is taking over the immigration portfolio from **JOHN MCCALLUM**, who is leaving politics to become ambassador to China.



Labour

PATTY HAJDU, who shone as status of women minister, is taking over the labour portfolio from **MARYANN MIHYCHUK**, who is being dumped from cabinet altogether.



Democratic Reform

KARINA GOULD of Burlington, Ont., takes Democratic Institutions from **MARYAM MONSEF**. Meanwhile, Monsef — widely criticized for her handling of Trudeau's promise to reform Canada's voting system — is moving to replace Hajdu at Status of Women.

International Trade

FRANCOIS-PHILIPPE CHAMPAGNE, a Quebec MP, takes on the trade portfolio following Chrystia Freeland's promotion.



FORT LAUDERDALE

10-year-old gets her bear back



Courtney Gelinas holds tight to her stuffed bear Rufus. AP

Yards from where workers finished the cleanup from the Fort Lauderdale airport shooting, a girl was reunited Tuesday with the teddy bear she left behind while fleeing.

Courtney Gelinas, 10, smiled as Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport spokesman Greg Meyer opened the trunk of his SUV to reveal Rufus, the teddy bear the Windsor, Ont., fifth grader had received from her dying grandfather a decade ago. When Meyer handed her Rufus, she held the bear

tight.

Courtney was with her parents and siblings and about to board a plane home when officials say Esteban Santiago fatally shot five people one floor below them Friday. Rufus, a brown bear dressed in a red devil costume, was left behind as the family fled onto the tarmac with hundreds of others. Her mother, Kim Lariviere, said Courtney has not slept well since.

"It is exciting, and I am happy to have him back," Courtney said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Emotional goodbye

POLITICS

Obama gives tearful farewell address as era of Trump looms

Conceding disappointments during his presidency yet offering vigorous encouragement for the nation's future, U.S. President Barack Obama issued an emotional defence Tuesday night of his vision to Americans facing a moment of anxiety and a dramatic change in leadership.

Obama's valedictory speech in his hometown of Chicago was a public meditation on the trials and triumphs, promises kept and promises broken that made up his eight years in the White House. Arguing his faith in America had been confirmed, Obama said he ends his tenure inspired by America's "boundless capacity" for reinvention, and he declared: "The future should be ours."

His delivery was forceful for most of his speech, but by the end he was wiping away tears as the crowd embraced him one last time.

Reflecting on the corrosive



Barack Obama at McCormick Place in Chicago on Tuesday for his presidential farewell address. NAM Y. HUH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

recent political campaign, he said, "That potential will be realized only if our democracy works. Only if our politics reflects the decency of our people. Only if all of us, regardless of our party affiliation or particular interest, help restore the sense of common purpose that we so badly need right now."

Obama made no mention of incoming president Donald Trump. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CLAIMS DENIED

Social media lit up Tuesday with unverified allegations of a sexual nature about Donald Trump, including a claim the Russians had a recording. Trump denied the rumours, tweeting they were "FAKE NEWS — A TOTAL POLITICAL WITCH HUNT!" METRO

CHARLESTON

Roof gets the death penalty

Dylann Roof was sentenced to death Tuesday for fatally shooting nine black church members during a Bible study session in Charleston, S.C., becoming the first person ordered executed for a federal hate crime.



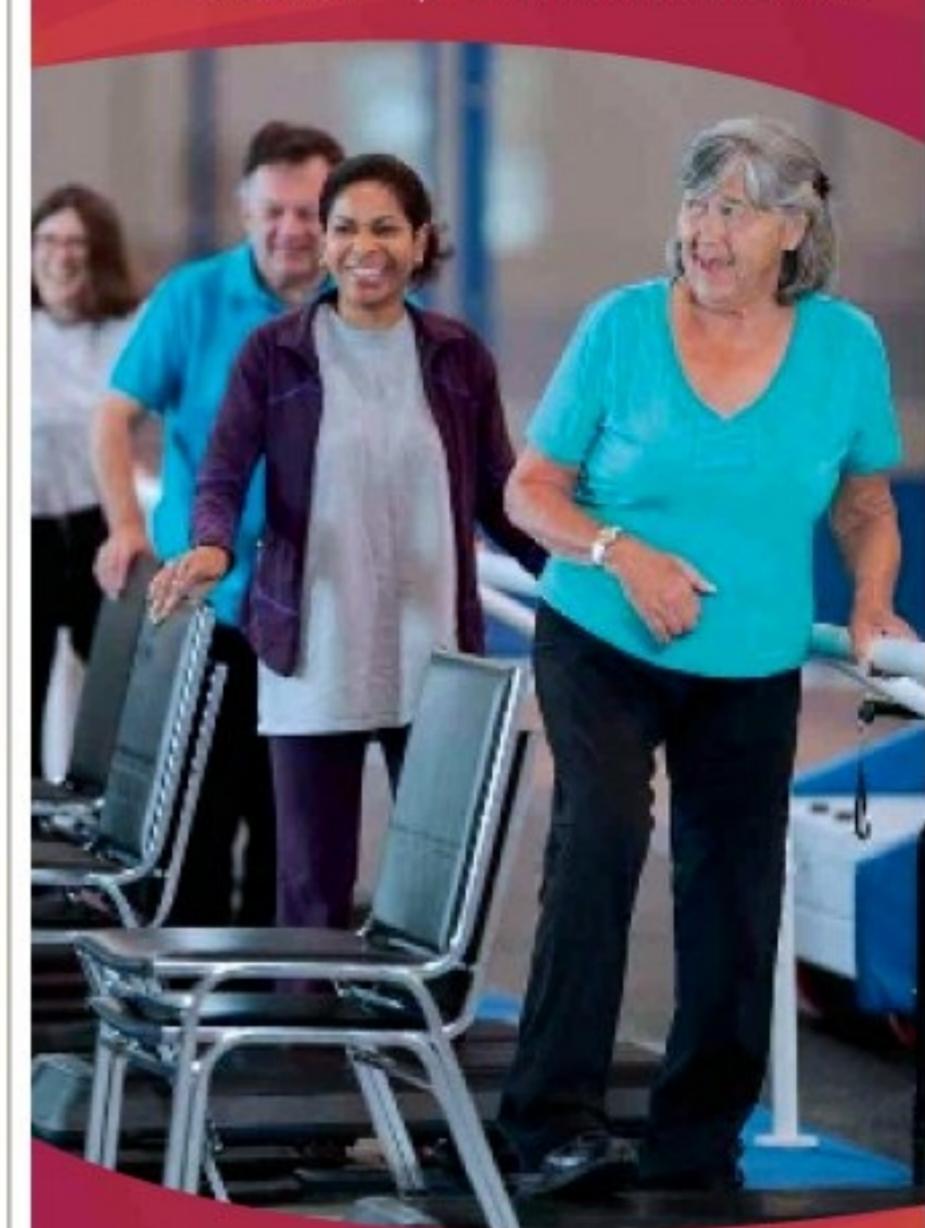
Dylann Roof
ASSOCIATED PRESS

A jury deliberated for about three hours before returning with the decision, capping a trial in which the 22-year-old avowed white supremacist did not fight for his life or show any remorse. He served as his own attorney during sentencing and never asked for forgiveness or mercy or explained the massacre.

Hours earlier, Roof threw away one last chance to plead for his life, telling jurors: "I still feel like I had to do it."

"I have the right to ask you to give me a life sentence," he said. "But I'm not sure what good it would do anyway."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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Music clubs losing fight to stay open

GOING OUT

Technology and changing tastes threaten music hubs

Mike Campbell didn't want his Carleton Music Bar and Grill venue in Halifax to join the growing list of Canadian musical haunts forced to close.

The former co-host of Much Music's 1990s series Mike and Mike's Excellent X-Canada Adventures tried everything, including a crowdfunding campaign to save the Carleton.

Technological trends, changing listener tastes and a challenging business model are threatening the dedicated performing spaces once home to young hopefuls and grizzled veterans.

Toronto's Hugh's Room

became the latest to join the death-watch list when its owner Richard Carson abruptly closed the venue last week to weigh his options. The restaurant and music venue opened in 2001 as a stage for both local and international performers.

Other similar money-losing music hubs have seen their hopes dashed in recent years.

While it's impossible to pinpoint a single reason for why Canada's smaller concert stages

are under so much pressure, there are a few recurring challenges. For one, audience habits have significantly changed, Campbell suggests.

A few years ago it would've been common to hit up a pub for drinks before heading to a nightclub, he says, but now many people favour pre-drink gatherings at home. Or, in the social media age, they may not meet in person at all.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The Carleton Music Bar and Grill in Halifax joins a growing list of Canadian musical haunts forced to close. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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INFRASTRUCTURE

Promised spending slow, watchdog says

The Trudeau government may fall short of spending all the money it planned to devote to infrastructure in the first year of its mandate, says a new analysis released Tuesday by the federal budget watchdog.

The parliamentary budget office found that some of Ottawa's planned infrastructure investments failed to materialize in the first half of 2016-17 and it warned a chunk of the cash may have to be spent in the future.

"There is a growing risk that money the government originally expected to be spent in 2016-17 will be deferred to subsequent years," said the report by parliamentary budget officer Jean-Denis Frechette.

A delay in government spending could affect the timing of the investments' primary objective: to help lift the coun-

\$2.5 billion

Worth of projects that have been approved, as posted on the Infrastructure Department's website on Tuesday. However, this total did not reflect how much had been spent.

try's slow-growth economy. In last year's budget, the government projected infrastructure spending to boost real gross domestic product — by 0.2 per cent this year and 0.4 per cent in 2017-18. It's unclear whether a spending delay would have an impact on growth in 2016-17.

Frechette's report said Ottawa's budget and fall economic statement both laid out plans to transfer \$3.5 billion in new federal infrastructure money this year to other levels of government.

But it added that federal transfers made by the Transport and Infrastructure departments over the first half of 2016-17 dropped by \$100 million compared with the year before.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Pace of housing starts picks up, says regulator

Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp. says the annual pace of housing starts in December came in at 207,041 units, up from 187,273 in November. Regionally, the annual pace of urban starts in December increased in Ontario, Quebec and the Prairies, but decreased in British Columbia and in Atlantic Canada. Bank of Montreal senior economist Robert Kavcic said home construction remained very stable nationally in 2016, with some clear hot and cold spots below the surface.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Big banks expect Trump boost for U.S. operations

The CEOs of some of Canada's biggest banks say they're expecting to see their U.S. businesses get a boost from stronger economic growth south of the border as the new Donald Trump administration takes over. "The talk is that there's going to be corporate tax reform, there's going to be more infrastructure spending, there's going to be less regulatory burden for industry in general, not just for banks," TD Bank CEO Bharat Masrani said Tuesday at a conference in Toronto.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



JESSICA ALLEN ON THE HISTORY OF THE GOLDEN GLOBES



Almost everyone was fair game for Twitter-borne Snark during the Golden Globes on Sunday: Al Roker, who called Jessica Biel "Jessica Alba"; Jenna Bush, who mashed together the Hidden Figures and Fences to create "Hidden Fences"; and Tom Hiddleston, whose out-of-touch acceptance speech felt longer than his relationship with Taylor Swift.

But Meryl Streep, who delivered a rousing six-minute oration while accepting the Cecil B. DeMille Award, was off limits — save, of course, for the nameless object of her vitriol.

Even now, to criticize Streep would be to commit media hara-kiri. So here goes.

It wasn't her message, that those in power ought to refrain from bullying. It wasn't her call to support the press. It wasn't even when she referred to the room as representing the "most vilified segments in American society right now," although that was a bit rich.

It was that Streep made a principled stand at an event whose sponsoring organization — a group of 90 shadowy, ostensibly foreign reporters who are required to have permanent residences in Southern California — is not exactly a paragon of principle.

I'm talking about the Hollywood Foreign Press. Like nearly every person who's ever accepted a Golden Globe, Streep thanked the association, which according to a 2010 piece by the Toronto Star's

Studio publicists extend to HFPA members unfettered access to A-listers while other critics and journalists are shut out.

Streep may have undermined herself by making her principled stand at an event whose sponsoring organization is not exactly a paragon of principle.

Peter Howell, was created in 1943 "by eight foreign journalists living in Hollywood, who were frustrated by their lack of access to top stars."

"They reasoned," Howell wrote, "that creating their own awards might turn things around, and that thinking paid off."

So well, in fact, that today studio publicists extend to HFPA members unfettered access to A-listers, usually in

Roeper reported in his 2005 book, *Schlock Value: Hollywood at Its Worst*.

More recently, in December, the Hollywood Reporter noted that HFPA asked members — there are four Canadians on the list, whose bylines I didn't recognize and I struggled to find any meaningful and recent work of theirs online — to return expensive bottles of Tom Ford-branded perfumes they were sent promoting the

to remain in good standing with the HFPA?" Because as the entertainment press constantly tells us that the Globes "are like the primaries to the Oscars' general election, the Globes' stock just keeps on rising."

To be clear, it's not that the HFPA always gets it wrong. A few times over the last decade, they've awarded films with more staying power than the Academy did — think *The Social Network* vs. *King's Speech*, for example, or *The Descendants* vs. *The Artist*. But they're not even a particularly good indicator of what the Academy will choose. The Producers Guild Awards and the Critics Choice Awards are much better predictors, both having chosen the same best-picture winner as the Academy eight times over the last 10 years.

So why doesn't the Academy, some 6,000 members strong, take the bull by the horns? Last year, Oscar voting wrapped up two days before the Golden Globe winners were announced. This year they were extended until January 13 — five days after the Globes. I don't know. And I don't know why I care. No one else really does.

The only one who hinted at the hypocrisy on Sunday night was Viola Davis. When she accepted her award for best supporting actress in *Fences*, she dutifully thanked the Hollywood Foreign Press. And then she gave a hint at how the sausages are made: "This is my fifth nomination," Davis said. "I took all the pictures, went to the luncheon." She had to pause because the room erupted in knowing nods and chuckles.

"Been there, done that," they seemed to say.

Jessica Allen is the digital correspondent on CTV's *The Social*.



Meryl Streep speaks while accepting the Cecil B. DeMille Award at the Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, Calif., on Sunday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

exotic locations, over dinner and drinks, while other critics and journalists are shut out.

Every year, the media writes scathingly of the association. Twenty-one years ago, the Washington Post reported that most members weren't full-time journalists but rather "part-time freelancers for small publications in places like Lithuania and Bangladesh, and include a college professor, a retired engineer, a man who runs an 'auto referral service,' and another who until recently sold appliances in Burbank."

Even bold-faced industry names speak out. "In 1993, director Rob Reiner complained to the New York Times about HFPA 'press conferences' that were nothing more than glorified photoops for its members," Richard

designer-turned-director's film *Nocturnal Animals*. One HFPA member refused a miniature wedding cake crowned with an interracial couple that Focus sent him to promote the film *Loving*. "I can't come home from a long day at the Four Seasons (attending press junkets and screenings) to find decaying food on my doorstep," he told THR. "I can't even tell you how many bottles of cheap wine I've gotten this year. The alcohol tends to come from the foreign films, which send stuff from their country."

So why, asked Roeper, are the Golden Globes "taken so seriously when the voting is done by approximately ninety cliquish, junketeering entertainment reporters who have to produce only a handful of articles per year in order

VICKY MOCHAMA

Salute to the outgoing Obamas — the world is finally yours

I'm so excited to see the Obamas out of office. It'll be so gratifying to see them free.

They haven't exactly announced their next steps, but if you look closely the hints are there. Barack recently published his 13th paper in an academic journal. (Which "peers" exist to peer-review a study by the president of the United States?) If academia doesn't work for him, he also recently served as a groomsman in the wedding of a White House staffer. Imagine being able to hire Barack Obama to be your groomsman. The Secret Service knows how to throw stag parties.

Michelle, too, could go in a completely different direction. She can rock couture like a fashion model and can out-dance the best video vixen. However, she seems genuinely to believe in serving the public. In her last public speech, she promised young people that she'd be there for them for the rest of her life.

Some people want Michelle to enter into politics slash lead the Rebel Alliance against Darth Donald. That won't happen for two reasons. First, she doesn't want to. Second, America doesn't deserve her! My god, the names that she's been called over the last eight years — it's a miracle she hasn't given up her citizenship for a Kenyan one just to troll Fox News.

Personally, I want them to have a reality TV show. Obamas! Unleashed! It'll be like *Keeping up the Kardashians* but with guest appearances from Kofi Annan and the Pope.

The only joy to their farewells is knowing that soon we'll be saying hello to the real Obamas.

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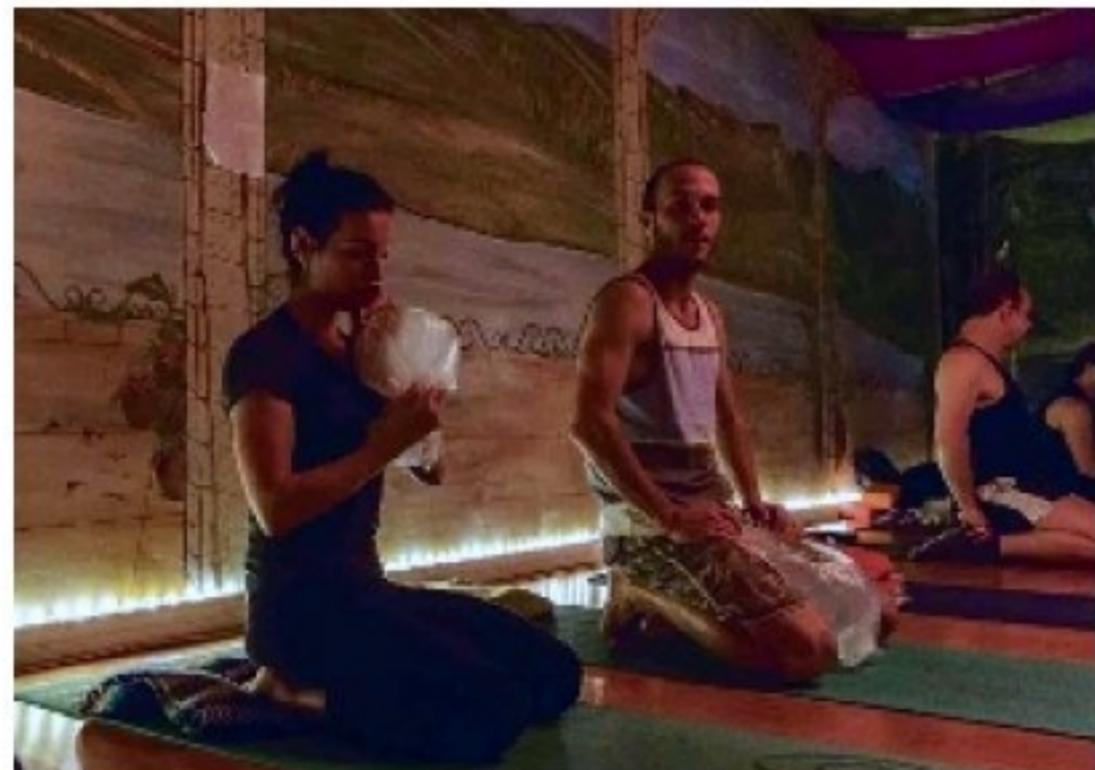
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Students at Ganja Yoga studio in Toronto smoke from a vaporizer before class begins. COURTESY ANDREW WILLIAMSON



JOHANNA SCHNELLER WHAT I'M WATCHING

Moms baring all and bringing the truth

THE SHOW: *Workin' Moms*, Season 1, Episode 1
THE MOMENT: Baring it

First we see them from their (naked) shoulders up: three women sitting cross-legged in a Mommy-and-Me class circle, looking down at their own breasts and each other's.

"I feel like a proud show dog that didn't understand her days were numbered," says Frankie (Juno Rinaldi), a real estate agent. "Look at these things. It's like chicken skin."

Anne (Dani Kind), a psychiatrist, replies, "What are you talking about? Yours are OK." Kate (Catherine Reitman), a PR rep, says about hers, "They're not winning any blue ribbons. But they stuck in there. They might be a little deflated, but they're not throwing in the towel. I like them."

"I'm with you," Anne says. "I breastfed my first for five months. This is where they landed."

The camera pulls back. The

three women are the only bare-chested ones in the group. They regard each other. "It could be worse, right?" Anne asks. "No, it could be better."

This is what we call an auspicious—and audacious—beginning. This is the series' opening scene and this is the message that Reitman (yes, daughter of Ivan), who also created and writes the show, is sending: We are going to bare all and we're going to tell the truth.

The Mommy-and-Me leader calls the circle a safe space, but

Reitman and Co. know there's no such thing. Here we are in 2017 and still, very little in our society nurtures working moms (working humans). Mom-on-mom judgment still rankles.

This show exposes its characters' humanity and fights back with funny.

Workin' Moms airs Tuesdays on CBC.

Johanna Schneller is a media connoisseur who zeroes in on pop-culture moments. She appears Monday through Thursday.

Ganja: A gateway drug to fitness?

CULTURE

Pairing weed and yoga may seem like a trend, but it has ancient roots

Mila Petkovic
For Metro

Yoga teacher Joey Lundgreen, 35, smiles warmly at students. People chat casually before class with their neighbours, as they take turns breathing from the vaporizer. The atmosphere here is warm, open and connected.

With his lion-like mane and fully embodied voice, Lundgreen leads the class through a series of breathing exercises.

"When I started this practice, (it) was a very helpful effect for me because my body was kinda very stuck and not very strong or capable, and this has been true for many of our students too. For this reason it's sometimes called 'Ganja Yoga, the gateway drug to fitness,'" said Lundgreen.

The drug helps people relax and open up, says studio owner Lucelene Pancini, 43, who also teaches at the studio. The dynamic blond woman—a former Brazilian champion of judo and jiu-jitsu—opened Ganja Yoga on Bloor Street West in Toronto in 2011, and has seen the number of students grow steadily over the years.

"It's beautiful to work with ganja but I tell people you have to be re-

sponsible too. A lot of people come here who have never smoked, or done yoga before. Anxiety or paranoia can come, so I provide a safe space, so people can look and say 'Lu is here for me,'" said Pancini.

The studio uses an energizing strain of cannabis called Sativa at the beginning of the class and the more relaxing, meditative Indica before going into the final resting state, Savasana. For legal reasons, the studio asks participants to contribute their own cannabis for the practice but shares the vaporizer.

"Breathing becomes slower and deeper and muscles let go, so for sure you can go much further into the poses," said Pancini, who has been teaching yoga for 12 years. "In the



I know a lot of people really like the smoking aspect. I feel like offering it helps to set the mood and harness an environment that's perhaps less pretentious than other studios can be. It's a mixed crowd but there's a real sense of community atmosphere here.

Yoga student Kat, 31

mind, it's the same thing. Because you're in the present moment you stop to care what the person is doing beside you."

Ganja yoga studios have existed for some years now in major centres like Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver. With the impending legalization of weed, and more and more dispensaries popping up, perhaps we will see an increase in such studios.

"One of the things we're doing is taking the stigma out of it a bit, and formally bringing it into practice of yoga. It makes for a beautiful, very friendly community environment compared to the often beautiful but somewhat sterile usual yoga studios," said Lundgreen.

Although the idea of pairing weed and yoga may seem cutting edge or à la mode, the practice goes back centuries.

Hindu deity Lord Shiva is said to have introduced cannabis to the people as a medicinal and spiritual aid, and the Vedas (sacred Hindu texts dating from 1200 BCE) record Indian holy men pairing yoga with cannabis preparations to connect to the divine.

Although the use of the plant did not become stigmatized in India until the 1960s when the government clamped down on it after an international conference, the use of bhang (a milkshake-like drink made with ground cannabis) is permitted in India during celebrations.

"I see it as a beautiful sacrament that can take you to another level—spiritually, physically—at least a little bit faster," said Pancini.



The message Catherine Reitman, left, (who also created and writes the show) is sending is: We are going to bare all and we're going to tell the truth. CONTRIBUTED

Tighten the belt...but no need to scrimp on taste

RECIPE

Cheap can still be cheerful — make a January rush to ramen

Ricardo Larrivée
Torstar News Service

I love January because it's full of new hope and possibility, and also because the exhilaration of the holidays is over — now it's time to recuperate. For many, that means a little belt-tightening to make up for December's extravagances. Here is an economical recipes that have incredible bang for the buck and will leave your family feeling full and satisfied.

We all know ramen noodles are cheap — that's why college kids live off them! But I wouldn't recommend eating anything from a package on a regular basis.

This ramen recipe is nearly as inexpensive, and it's cooked from scratch in less than half an hour with nutritious, quality ingredients.

With bright aromatics, tender morsels of steak and comforting noodles, you'll get a fragrant, hearty soup that'll have everyone demanding seconds.

Ramen Noodle and Beef Soup
Makes 4 servings



Ramen noodle and beef soup is inexpensive but also fragrant and hearty. CONTRIBUTED

Ingredients:

- 4 green onions, chopped (white and green parts separated)
- 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 1 tbsp finely chopped fresh ginger
- 1/4 tsp red pepper flakes (or sambal olek)
- 3 tbsp (45 mL) olive oil
- 4 cups (1 L) beef broth
- 2 cups (500 mL) water
- 1 sweet potato, peeled and diced
- 1 tbsp fish sauce
- 1 tbsp soy sauce
- 225 g ramen-style noodles

Directions:

1. In a saucepan over medium heat, soften white parts of onions, garlic, ginger and red pepper flakes in 2 tablespoons oil.
2. Add broth, water, sweet potato, fish sauce and soy sauce. Bring to a boil and simmer for 10 minutes or until sweet
3. Meanwhile, in a skillet over high heat, brown steak on both sides in remaining oil until desired doneness. Season with salt and pepper. Let rest for 5 minutes on a work surface, and then slice.
4. Ladle soup into bowls. Garnish with meat, bean sprouts, green parts of the onions and cilantro. Serve with lime wedges, if desired.

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Hold the food; an Amarone is perfect all on its own

nicknamed the "conversation wine" because their up-front personalities beg to be sipped and discussed all by their lonesome.

Made from partially-dried grapes, an Amarone is a dry, beast of a red typified by dark plummy fruit, a raisiny sweetness and low acidity (which makes it even less food-friendly).

Masi's 2011 Costasera Amarone della Valpolicella Classico (\$42.95-\$51.99) considers itself the benchmark of the style for a reason. Nicely balanced, and ticking all the classic Amarone boxes, it's built to ponder over a night of Netflix.

Prices reflect the range across the country. Some products may not be available in all provinces.



With so much emphasis put on pairing wine with food you might wonder if there are any wines that just taste good on their own.

While I've always been the camp that says "drink what you want when you want," the majority of the world's wine-makers, especially those in Europe, see their output as a piece of a puzzle that needs an accompanying eatable to complete the picture.

Though I've had them with a meal more than once, Italy's Amarone reds are

nicknamed the "conversation wine" because their up-front personalities beg to be sipped and discussed all by their lonesome.

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Prices reflect the range across the country. Some products may not be available in all provinces.

ROSE REISMAN THE SAVVY EATER

THIS WEEK: Pita or Naan?

These favourite traditional breads are far from similar when it comes to nutrition.

PICK THIS

Ozery Bakery Pitas (1 pita)

Calories 300
Fat 2g
Sodium 440mg



SKIP THIS

PC Traditional Naan (1 naan)

Calories 380
Fat 10g
Sodium 800mg



HERE'S WHY



Equivalent in sodium to more than 2 KFC Original Recipe Chicken Thighs.

Pita and naan breads are both favourites for dipping and for serving with Greek and Indian dishes, but both have a very different nutritional profile. Naan bread is more moist and tender than pita bread due to the added ghee (butter oil) and soybean or canola oil, which increases the total fat to 10g versus the 5g in the pita. The naan bread also has double the amount of sodium than the pita.

DRIVER THEORY

Inside job suspected in Kardashian Paris heist

Investigators focused Tuesday on a possible inside job in the theft of more than \$10 million worth of jewelry from Kim Kardashian West, after taking her chauffeur that night and his brother into custody.

Three Paris officials confirmed the arrest of the driver and his brother among 17 people taken into custody. Michael Madar, 40, and Gary Madar, 27, worked for the same livery company, according to officials.

The officials would not elaborate on how they believe the theft was planned. Kardashian West's bodyguard was gone for the night, and the robbers forced their way into the private apartment where she was staying, tied her up and made off with the jewelry.

A spokeswoman for the reality star said she had no comment.

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THE CHECKLIST | 2017 ACURA MDX

THE BASICS

Engine: 3.5-litre V6

Power: 290 horsepower, 267 pound-feet of torque

Transmission: Nine-speed automatic

Fuel Economy (L/100 km): 12.2 city, 9 highway, 10.7 combined

Price: Starting at \$53,690



LOVE IT

- Great handling
- Sharp looking
- Good safety technology

LEAVE IT

- Convoluted centre stack
- Infotainment system

REVIEW

2017 refresh comes with lane keep assist

Stephen Elmer
AutoGuide.com



So how do automakers cope with the speed of things when they are not ready with an all-new model? By wrapping new skin around an old frame and selling it as all-new. A prime example? Meet the 2017 Acura MDX.

For 2017, what's newest about the MDX is what you see. There are some packaging changes and some added content, but for the most part, the new styling is the biggest change here.

Some of the visual additions include the diamond pentagon grille, restyled jewel eye headlights and a fresh front bumper. I'll let you decide if it's good looking or not, but one thing seems certain: the exterior redesign was extensive, but the changes on the inside, not so much.

Moving inside the MDX, you would be hard pressed to name it as a new model, though that doesn't necessarily mean it's a bad cabin. First the positives. The Olive Ash Burl wood found in our fully loaded model is gorgeous, as is the leather that wraps the comfortable seats. It feels especially nice on the steering wheel, offering a supple tactile feel.

To look at, the interior including its dual-screen centre stack is quite nice to look at, though

the esthetics of the infotainment are let down by the operation. Thankfully Acura hasn't done away with the volume knob like Honda has in its products, but still, this infotainment system is not all that intuitive.

Slightly thicker sway bars on this SH-AWD model help in part to provide excellent body control in this 1,946-kilogram crossover. The MDX handles corners fairly flat, with handling that feels slightly tighter than its competitors. Some of that can also be chalked up to the SH-AWD system, which can send different amounts of torque to individual wheels to help the MDX rotate and stay nimble.

It's also nice and quiet in the cabin, while the V6 simultaneously manages a nice exhaust note; on the quieter side of aggressive, but enough to remind you that the V6 has a little bite to it.

Power doesn't come on until higher into the rev range, but the nine-speed transmission allows for power delivery to feel fairly strong on the low end.

For 2017, every single MDX model comes equipped with the AcuraWatch suite of safety features and driver-assist technologies, which includes collision-mitigating brakes, lane-departure warning, forward-collision warning, adaptive cruise control, road-departure mitigation and lane-keeping assist.

That last one is probably the most noticeable, as the lane keep assist in the MDX is quite aggressive and works quite well. To use it optimally, you keep your hands on the wheel but slightly loosen your grip, allowing the MDX to do some of the work for you.

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Laine, Matthews quickly ascend to all-star status

NHL

Top rookies selected to play in showcase

It took less than a season for Auston Matthews and Patrik Laine to become NHL all stars.

The top two picks in the 2016 NHL draft were among the players selected Tuesday to participate in the upcoming 2017 NHL all-star weekend.

Laine, the rookie leading scorer with 21 goals and 37 points, is the lone Winnipeg Jets representative on a Central Division roster also including captain P.K. Subban of Nashville and reigning league MVP Patrick Kane of Chicago.

Laine's participation in the tournament is questionable after he suffered a concussion in a recent game against Buffalo. If he can't go, Winnipeg forwards Mark Scheifele or Nikolaj Ehlers, who share the Jets' scoring lead with Laine, are possible replacements.

"Patrik Laine is kind of an all-star kind of player," Winnipeg's Mathieu Perreault said.



Auston
Matthews

GETTY IMAGES

"He makes a difference. He's that threat to score at all times, which is something we didn't really have in the past here. Those guys make a big difference. He gives you that goal that you need to either tie a game, win a game. He's already scored some big goals for us."

The 19-year-old Matthews is Toronto's sole representative after scoring 21 goals in his first 39 games to become the Maple Leafs' youngest all-star since Wendel Clark made it 31 years ago.

Matthews, second in rookie scoring with 35 points, joins a team captained by Montreal goaltender Carey Price that also includes Canadiens defenceman Shea Weber and star Ottawa rearguard Erik Karlsson.

He's currently on track to break not only Clark's team record for goals by a Leafs rookie (34), but also Peter Ihnacak's team rookie mark for points (66).

None of this seems to have surprised the Arizona product.

"Honestly not really," said Matthews on a conference call from Florida where he and some teammates were relaxing during the team's bye week. "I know what I'm capable of."

The Pacific Division roster, captained by NHL leading scorer Connor McDavid of the Edmonton Oilers, includes Calgary forward Johnny Gaudreau and Vancouver forward Bo Horvat.



Patrik Laine's status for all-star weekend is in question as he is dealing with a concussion.

JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Evgeni Malkin joins Pittsburgh Penguins teammate Sidney Crosby on the Metropolitan Division roster, which also includes Washington sniper Alex Ovechkin.

The all-star weekend will be held Jan. 28-29 in Los Angeles. The Kings will be represented by forward Jeff Carter and de-

fenceman Drew Doughty in their home rink.

The game format will again be a 3-on-3 tournament featuring a team from each of the NHL's four divisions. The players also will compete in a skills competition on Saturday, Jan. 28.

The Pacific Division won the

tournament last year, but the weekend was dominated by the unlikely story of John Scott. The journeyman enforcer scored two goals and was voted the MVP after an equally improbable grassroots online campaign by fans to vote him into the game as a captain.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

FIFA

Council approves 48-team World Cup

FIFA will expand the World Cup to 48 teams, adding 16 extra nations to the 2026 tournament that is likely to be held in North America.

President Gianni Infantino's favoured plan — for 16 three-team groups with the top two advancing to a round of 32 — was unanimously approved Tuesday by the FIFA Council.

It meets Infantino's election pledge of a bigger and more inclusive World Cup going beyond European and South American teams, which have won all 20 titles.

"We have to shape the football World Cup of the 21st century," said Infantino, who also promised funding increases for FIFA's 211 member federations at his election last February.

80

The expansion will increase the number of matches from 64 to 80.

With 80 matches instead of 64, FIFA forecasts the equivalent of \$1 billion extra income at current rates from broadcasting and sponsor deals, plus ticket sales, compared to \$5.5 billion revenue forecast for the 2018 World Cup in Russia.

FIFA projects an increased profit of \$640 million despite some extra operating costs and prize money for teams.

FIFA's six continents should find out by May how many extra places they will each get.

"No guarantees have been made," Infantino said. "The only sure thing is that obviously with 48 teams everyone will have a bit more than they have today."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Jansen closes \$80M deal with Dodgers



Kenley Jansen

ROB CARR/GETTY IMAGES

Kenley Jansen will return to closing games for the Los Angeles Dodgers after finalizing an \$80-million, five-year contract.

The team announced the deal Tuesday with the 29-year-old free agent right-hander, who was 3-2 with a 1.83 ERA and a career-high 47 saves.

Jansen's agreement has a \$16-million average annual value and raises the Dodgers' projected luxury tax payroll to about \$230 million.

NCAA FOOTBALL



You think this is the best of Clemson? Just wait the next five years.

Clemson QB Deshaun Watson after his team's comeback win over Alabama in the national championship

NFL PLAYOFFS

Pats favoured to beat Texans by 16

Before this weekend, just five NFL playoff games since 1966 have featured a team favoured by at least 15 points. Just one of those underdogs won the game (Google "Joe Namath" for more information on that).

Oddsmakers don't think Brock Osweiler should guarantee the 16-point underdog Hous-

ton Texans (10-7) can beat Tom Brady and the Patriots (14-2) in New England. In fact, even if Brady were not playing, the Patriots would be favoured by nearly two touchdowns.

The Patriots beat the Texans 27-0 in Week 3 with third-string quarterback Jacoby Brissett leading the way. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



There is nothing easy about this game for our offence.

Tom Brady



Gianni Infantino

MICHAEL BUHOLZER/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

MAKE IT TONIGHT

Crunchy Cauliflower Tacos



Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

A light coating of bread crumbs give these veggie tacos an addictive crunch.

Ready in 30 minutes

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients

- 1 head cauliflower
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- 1/2 cup panko or bread crumbs
- 1 tsp chili powder
- 1/2 tsp cumin
- salt and pepper
- 1 avocado
- 1/4 cup sour cream
- 1 lime, juiced
- salt and pepper
- 6 to 8 tortillas
- extras like crumbled queso or feta cheese, cabbage slaw

Directions

- Chop cauliflower into florets. In large bowl, toss with olive oil.
- On a large, flat plate mix panko, spices and a bit of salt and pepper. Toss florets in mix until coated. Spread on a baking sheet and pop in oven 25 to 30 minutes, until cauliflower is golden and tender.
- Meanwhile, combine avocado with sour cream and lime juice. Mash with fork and combine until smooth. Taste and add salt and pepper.
- Prep all of your extras and warm up the tortillas. Spread a good dollop of avocado on each tortillas. Place a handful of the baked cauli on top, then load on your toppings.

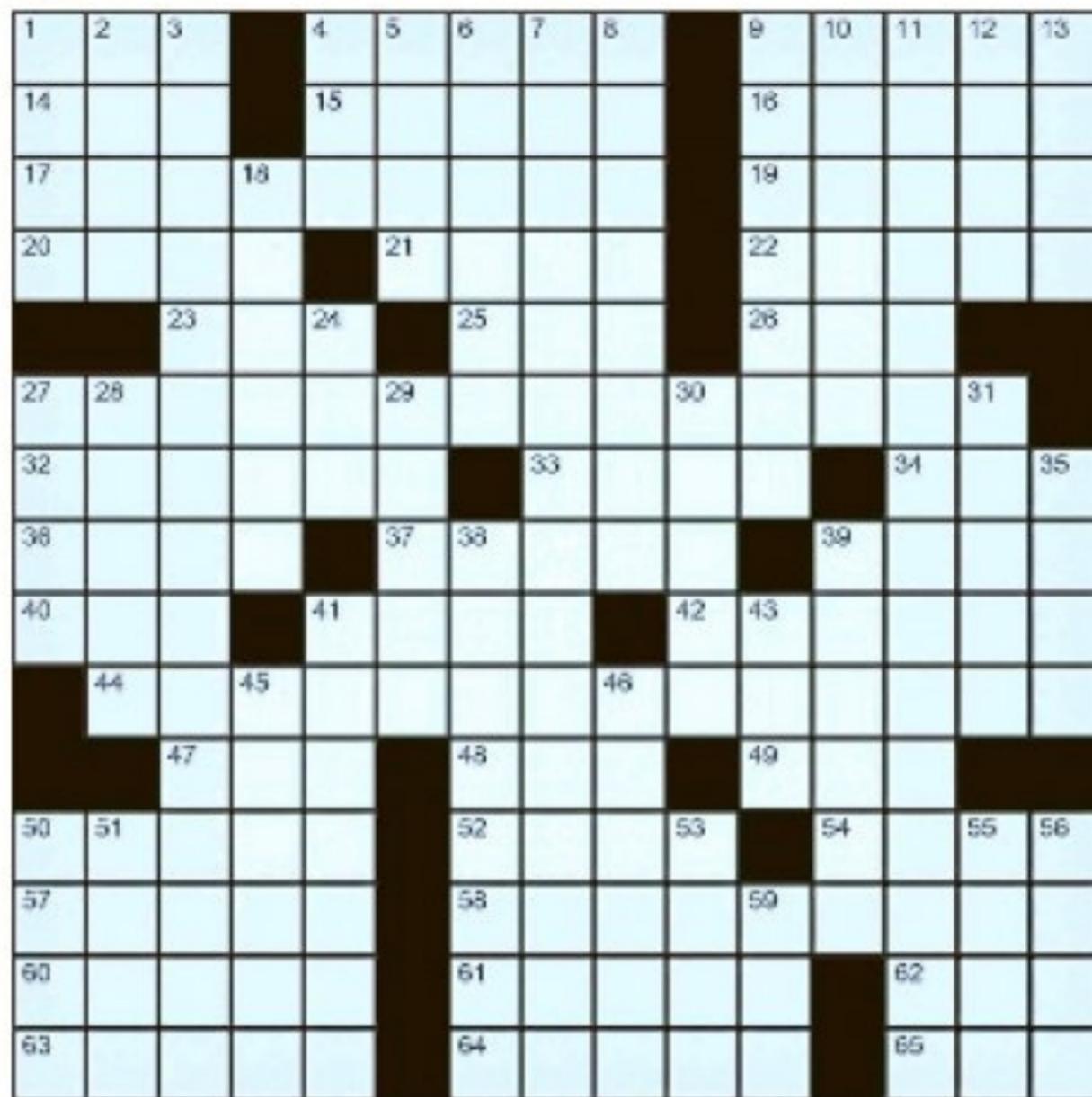
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- "Party Rock Anthem" duo
- Initials-sharers of The Miracles' lead singer
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- War on Poverty agcy.
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- Archie and Edith's street on "All in the Family"
- Many a moon
- Jackie O's hubby
- Macy Gray hit: 2 wds.
- Hilly range
- Accelerated
- Sea: French
- Baseball star Sammy
- Rita Hayworth's 1953 title biblical role
- '___ Authorized Personnel Only' (Warning on the door of a secretive facility)
- Cow sound
- "___ for two and me..."
- Mel of baseball
- Hilary of "Amelia"
- (2009)
- Close-fitting
- Ancient love god
- Thomas ___ (American colonial pamphleteer)
- Wedding party member
- Hilary of "Amelia"
- Brother, in Brossard
- The Young Rascals tune: "How Can ___ Sure"
- Arboreal architectures
- Uncanny
- Mr. Pennington and Mr. Cobb



DOWN

- Assorted [abbr.]
- Salt Lake City's site
- Drumheller discoveries: 2 wds.
- Summer hrs. in Alberta
- 'Right' suffix
- "Mad Men" char.
- acter Don
- Big sports/concert venue in Toronto: 3 wds.
- Birth a before-being-a-baby bird: 3 wds.
- "Harry Potter and the Deathly ___: Part 1" (2010)
- "___" (Start of

Juliet's famous line)
11. Do motionless modelling for the painter: 4 wds.
12. Beyoncé's "Cadillac Records" (2008) role
13. "Vamoose!"
18. Respectful gesture when meeting The Queen
24. Talking Heads song: "And ___ Was"
27. Lark
28. Dinner deplete
29. Boo-boo
30. Dita Von ___ (Queen of Burlesque)
31. Krispy ___ Doughnuts
35. Notion
38. "Has testing been done on this product?": 3 wds.
39. Scheduled
41. Irish writer Bram's family
43. Hubbub
45. Shakespearean verse
46. Stretched more tightly
50. Michael J. Fox show, "___ City"
51. Lesser
53. British songstress Ms. Halliwell
55. Dionne Warwick's "Walk ___"
56. Fr. women-with-halos
59. Born, in biographies

*IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20

Today you're not afraid to dream big! You're entertaining big plans for your future, and you might make big proposals to bosses, parents and VIPs.

Taurus April 21 - May 21

You're excited about travel plans -- and we're talking big travel plans! Likewise, some of you have big ideas about higher education, publishing and the media.

Gemini May 22 - June 21

You feel confident during discussions about inheritances and shared property today, which is why you definitely will steer things the way you want them to go.

Cancer June 22 - July 23

Relations with partners and close friends are intense today. Everything seems to be bigger than life. Your wants are important, and so are the wants of someone else.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23

You are busy at work today because you want to accomplish so much. Plus, you have high standards for yourself and others. "Shoot for the moon!"

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

This is a playful, romantic and funloving day! Make plans to socialize with others. Enjoy sports events, fun activities with children and schmoozing with friends.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Your interactions with a parent or a family member will be strong today. You know what you want, and this person knows what he or she wants. Surely you can meet somewhere in the middle.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

This is a busy day! Be careful that you don't overbook short trips, appointments, errands and talking to everyone. Plus, there's all that reading and writing you have to do. Gasp!

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

Today you're focused on money and cash flow. Caution: Do not go overboard or be overly confident. Make sure you know what you're doing, then do it.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

You feel empowered today because the Sun is in your sign, getting a boost from lucky Jupiter. Use today to go after what you want. You likely will get it.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

You will be effective working alone or behind the scenes today. Sometimes that's actually the most powerful place to be, because you're not distracted by external business.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20
This is a popular day for you! Enjoy hanging out with others, and also enjoy professional associations with colleagues or people in clubs and groups. Don't hesitate to speak up.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

4	2	5		1
6	4			
2	9		7	
5				8
8	4	1		
3			9	
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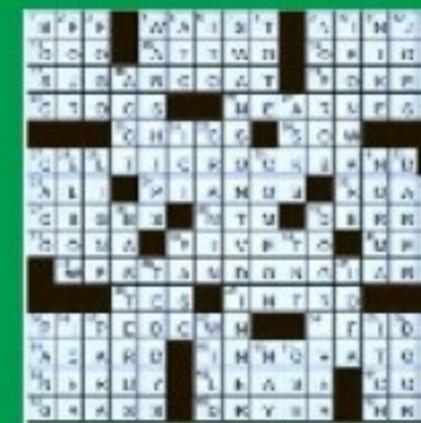
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YESTERDAY'S ANSWERS

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2	3	8	1	9	6	5	7	4
4	7	9	3	2	5	8	1	6
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1	6	3	2	8	9	7	4	5
7	8	4	6	5	1	9	3	2
5	9	2	7	4	3	1	6	8



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